

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 209832
ORIGIN EUR-12

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TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL ZAGREB
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 209832

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, GW, YO

SUBJECT: CROATIAN ATTACK ON FRG CONGEN CHICAGO

1. AT 11:20 A.M. TODAY (WASHINGTON TIME) TWO ARMED MEN
BROKE INTO THE FRG CONGEN IN CHICAGO AND TOOK CONTROL OF
THAT OFFICE. EIGHT HOSTAGES WERE TAKEN (TWO WERE LATER
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PAGE 02 STATE 209832

RELEASED) AND THE INTRUDERS DEMANDED THE RELEASE OF CON-
VICTED CROATIAN TERRORIST STEPAN BILANDZIC, WHO WAS
RECENTLY FOUND EXTRADITABLE BY A WEST GERMAN COURT.

2. ONE OF THE TERRORISTS HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS MILE
KODZOMAN. THE OTHER IS UNIDENTIFIED. THEY CLAIM TO REPRE-
SENT THE CROATIAN NATIONAL RESISTANCE.

3. YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR BELOVSKI CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VINE ON PRIORITY BASIS TO DISCUSS INCIDENT AND OFFER HIS EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE. IN RESPONSE TO VINE'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE TERRORISTS AND THEIR ORGANIZATION, BELOVSKI CHARACTERIZED THEM AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SO-CALLED "LIBERATION" MOVEMENT WHOSE ADHERENTS PUBLISH, ADVOCATE - AND ENGAGE IN - TERRORISM. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE TWO CHICAGO TERRORISTS' INTEREST IN BILANDZIC UNDERLINED THE INTERNATIONAL NATURE OF THE MOVEMENT THEY REPRESENT.

4. AFTER OBSERVING THAT YUGOSLAV REPRESENTATIVES HAVE GIVEN THE NAMES OF CROATIAN TERRORISTS AND THEIR ORGANIZATIONS TO THE USG REPRESENTATIVES ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS, MOST RECENTLY TO DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL CIVILETTI, BELOVSKI CHARACTERIZED RECENT EVENT AS OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE AGAINST AND PERHAPS EVEN CRACK THIS PARTICULAR MOVEMENT. BELOVSKI ALSO INDICATED THAT HE AND HIS STAFF WERE PLEASED WITH COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE DISPLAYED BY US SECURITY PERSONNEL AND HAD COMMUNICATED THIS TO BELGRADE. BELOVSKI REQUESTED, IN LIGHT OF PRESENT SITUATION, THAT WE STRENGTHEN SECURITY PRECAUTIONS AT YUGOSLAV DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR ESTABLISHMENTS IN US.

5. VINE INFORMED BELOVSKI THAT DEPT. HAD SET UP A SPECIAL
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PAGE 03 STATE 209832

TASK FORCE HEADED BY AMB. QUANTON, DIRECTOR OF OFFICE FOR COMBATTING TERRORISM, TO DEAL WITH INCIDENT. VINE GAVE BELOVSKI TELEPHONE NUMBER OF TASK FORCE AND ASKED HIM TO DESIGNATE A MEMBER OF HIS STAFF AS POINT OF CONTACT.
(BELOVSKI READILY DID SO.)

6. BELOVSKI ALSO REPORTED THAT TWO MALES DRESSED IN OLD USTASHI UNIFORMS HAD ENTERED YUGOSLAV CONSULATE IN CLEVELAND EARLIER TODAY (AUGUST 18) TO ISSUE WARNING THAT THEY WERE ENROUTE TO MEETING WHICH WOULD TAKE DECISIONS WHICH WOULD "RAISE YOUR HAIR".BELOVSKI IDENTIFIED ONE OF THESE TWO MEN AS ANTE DIZDAR,POSSIBLY A BROTHER OF A CROATIAN EMIGRE WHO IS KNOWN TO HAVE TAKEN PART IN RECENT ANTI-YUGOSLAV TERRORIST ACT IN NYC.

7. SY AND RELEVANT LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES HAVE TAKEN APPROPRIATE SECURITY PRECAUTIONS AT YUGOSLAV ESTABLISHMENTS IN U.S. VANCE

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